

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-10

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R 031714Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3307

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3767

MADRID ALSO FOR AMB CARLUCCI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

REF: LISBON 3671, LISBON 3740, PARIS 17265

SUMMARY: SOARES-CUNHAL PARTICIPATED IN JOINT INTERVIEW EVENING
JULY 2 FOR TRANSMISSION OVER FRENCH TV.

PROGRAM NOT BROADCAST LOCALLY, PRIMARILY A
REAFFIRMATION OF POSITIONS OF RESPECTIVE PARTIES ON FAMILIAR
ISSUES. PIDE ESCAPE HAS BEEN SEIZED UPON BY VARIETY OF GROUPS
TO ADVANCE THEIR OWN POLITICAL AIMS -- E.G., COMMUNISTS
TO DEMONSTRATE BOTH NEED FOR AND EFFECTIVENESS OF POPULAR
VIGILANCE; OTHERS TO ATTACK COPCON. RECENT DISCLAIMERS NOT-
WITHSTANDING, EXCERPTS FROM COMMUNIST-LINING POLITICAL HANDBOOK
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PREPARED BY FIFTH DIVISION WERE REPEATED ON FIFTH DIVISION-

SPONSORED RADIO BROADCAST MORNING OF JULY 3. END SUMMARY

1. SOARES-CUNHAL INTERVIEW: SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER SOARES AND COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER CUNHAL WERE JOINTLY INTERVIEWED IN LISBON JULY 2 FOR IMMEDIATE TRANSMISSION OVER FRENCH TV. SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW, WHICH HAS NOT BEEN REBROADCAST LOCALLY, WAS REAFFIRMATION OF POSITIONS OF RESPECTIVE PARTIES ON FAMILIAR ISSUES. SOARES AND CUNHAL REAFFIRMED CONFIDENCE IN DEMOCRATIC CHARACTER OF AFM AND AGREED THAT COMMUNISTS WERE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR REPUBLICA. SOARES WAS FOR EVOLUTION WITHIN EXISTING ECONOMIC STRUCTURES; CUNHAL REPUDIATED ANY SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC SOLUTION FOR PORTUGAL.

2. MORE ON PIDE ESCAPE: PIDE ESCAPE OF JUNE 29 CONTINUES TO REVERBERATE ON LISBON POLITICAL SCENE (LISBON 3671). THIRTY FOUR OF 89 ESCAPEES HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN RECAPTURED. MILITARY COMMISSION OF INQUIRY HAS BEEN NAMED, AND STATEMENTS BY GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS SEEKING TO AFFIX RESPONSIBILITY OR AVOID BLAME ARE FILLING AIR. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, HEADED BY SOCIALIST MINISTER, HAS DENIED ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTRATION OF MILITARY PRISON WHERE ESCAPE OCCURRED. SOCIALIST PARTY HAS ECHOED CALL FOR INVESTIGATION WHILE STRESSING THAT DEFENSE OF REVOLUTION WILL NOT COME VIA PSEUDO-REVOLUTIONARY RADICALISM BUT THROUGH STRENGTHENED AUTHORITY AND LEGAL MECHANISMS. GENERAL STAFF OF AIR FORCE ISSUED NOTE EXPLAINING ALLEGED DELAY IN PROVIDING HELICOPTER FOR USE IN EFFORT TO RECAPTURE ESCAPEES AS DUE TO DELAY IN RECEIVING FORMAL REQUEST.

3. PRINCIPAL POLITICAL ACTORS ARE PUSHING INTERPRETATIONS OF ESCAPE WHICH SUIT OWN PURPOSES. THOSE CRITICAL OF COPCON AND ITS COMMANDER GENERAL OTELO SARAIVA DE CARVALHO HAVE HIGHLIGHTED COPCON'S LATENESS IN RESPONDING TO ESCAPE; OTHERS HAVE PRESENTED ESCAPE AS PUT-UP JOB TO EMBARRASS AND ELIMINATE FROM SCENE LT. JUDAS OF PIDE EXTINCTION COMMITTEE; STILL OTHERS VIEW IT AS STRATEGEM DESIGNED TO PERMIT COMMUNISTS TO DRAMATICALLY DEMONSTRATE NEED FOR AND EFFECTIVENESS OF COMMITTEES FOR DEFENSE OF REVOLUTION ON EVE OF AFM ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON PROPOSALS FOR DIRECT LINKS TO PEOPLE.

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4. POLITICAL HANDBOOK STILL BEING USED: FIFTH DIVISION HEAD RAMIRO CORREIA'S DISCLAIMERS TO EMBOFF NOTWITHSTANDING, COMMUNIST-LINING POLITICAL CHAPTER OF "DYNAMIZATION" HANDBOOK PREPARED BY FIFTH DIVISION IS STILL BEING USED (LISBON 3709). EXCERPTS FROM CONTROVERSIAL CHAPTER WERE REPEATED ON FIFTH DIVISION SPONSORED RADIO BROADCAST MORNING OF JULY 3. COPIES ALSO SEEN JULY 2 BY EMBOFF ON BULLETIN BOARD OF BURROUGHS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE IN LISBON.

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